

and respectful language, that while the majority announces these doctrines in this shape and form, we of the minority in the mode and manner conceded by all parliamentary bodies, take the poor privilege of disputing these propositions, and do so in respectful and dignified language.

Mr. SCHLEY. Will the gentleman from Prince George's (Mr. Clarke) allow me to call his attention to pages 254 and 255 of the journal of proceedings? He will there see that he has forgotten what was the exact nature of the proceedings:

"Mr. BARRON moved a suspension of the rules, in order to take up the resolutions submitted by Mr. Stirling on yesterday, in reference to the removal beyond the lines of the army, of sympathizers with the rebellion."

That question was decided in the affirmative, by yeas and nays.

"The resolutions were then read a second time.

"Mr. BELT submitted the following amendment:

"Add to the end of the first resolution the words:

"Provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall be taken, &c."

So that there was an opportunity to submit an amendment to the resolution before the previous question was called.

Mr. CLARKE. There were different resolutions. I was speaking in reference to the resolution submitted by the gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Schley.)

Mr. STIRLING. There was no previous question called on that resolution.

Mr. CLARKE. I was simply taking the remarks of the gentleman as made here. I was not here then. But it is not material to my argument at all. The previous question was called upon the resolution of the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stirling,) although there was an amendment offered. There was no opportunity to debate the question; the previous question was called, cutting off all debate. Whether there was an amendment or not offered, that does not vary the proposition that there was allowed no opportunity of discussion. And I say, the fact being so, we simply ask, in a respectful mode and manner, to put upon record our opposition in the form of a protest to those resolutions.

The gentleman from Baltimore county (Mr. Ridgely) has said there is nothing in this paper disrespectful to this house, nothing personal; nothing more than an enunciation that the principles embodied in these resolutions will logically produce certain results. While that gentleman differs from our conclusions there, he says there is nothing disrespectful in the paper. It is nothing more than an attempt upon the part of the minority to exercise a right conceded in all cases, so far as I am informed, under the rules

of parliamentary practice, to put their views upon the journal, in such cases, in the form of a protest.

Now, one word more in reference to what is contained in this protest. The gentleman from Frederick (Mr. Schley) says the effect of this paper will be to continue agitation. I will now not allude to that portion of his remarks, where he says it was drawn up with insidious views or intentions. He says it is done for the purpose of calling the public mind to this question.

Mr. SCHLEY. I did not say it was; I said "if it was."

Mr. CLARKE. I humbly conceive that that is no reason why it should be objected to. If the majority think these resolutions are so true and correct, why not let the public mind take them up, and grasp them, and agitate them? And if they are wrong, should not the public attention be called to them? And should not the public mind be invited to sift the right from the wrong? And taking either view of the question, if it is done with that object, it is a high and laudable purpose in free America, I hope.

And now, in reference to this protest being an attack upon the federal government. I can nowhere find any such attack made. On the contrary, we announced that the President of the United States, with his military commanders and his provost marshals, and all the machinery which he thinks necessary to place in the State of Maryland, for the purpose of carrying out the laws; with the Congress of the United States in session since this rebellion broke out, and subsequent to various invasions made heretofore into the State of Maryland; with the legislature of Maryland completing its session only a few months ago;—still no such proposition of law, no such principles have been announced by them. We therefore respectfully remind the majority here, and the people of the State, that in view of the fact that such principles have not been announced or recognized by any one exercising authority either in the federal government or in the State government, we conceive that it is not necessary that those powers should be exercised. And we further infer that the attempted exercise of them would be unjust, unconstitutional, and paving the way to a military despotism. Is there anything wrong in that? Nay, further: did not, so soon as these resolutions appeared in the public prints, the National Intelligencer, of Washington city—I do not know what is the real organ of the administration, but that is regarded as the organ of some of the advisers of the President—

Mr. SCHLEY. By whom?

Mr. CLARKE. By a great many; by me for one. And I have been referred to articles in the Intelligencer at certain times as expressing views of members of the Cabinet upon questions then under discussion, and the loy-